

Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02

SIL-01 DOTE-00 /094 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 957

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H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: PRIVATE COMMENTS DURING TNC

1. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION RECEIVED WEEK OF TNC MISCELLANEOUS BITS OF INFORMATION DURING PRIVATE INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS. A SUMMARY FOLLOWS:

2. INTRA-LDC COMMUNICATION/COORDINATION IS SOMETHING LESS THAN PERFECT. EGYPT NOT IN SEVEN PLUS SEVEN AND FEELS LEFT OUT. NOMINAL COORDINATOR (BRAZIL) DOESN'T REPORT WHAT HAPPENS THERE. EGYPTIAN DEL WAS ON VERGE OF MAKING HIS SPEECH AT TNC INCLUDING FORMAL OPPOSITION TO 1977 TARGET DATE (BIG POWER DICTATION) WHEN MTN DEL MEMBER TALKED HIM OUT OF IT (ON GROUNDS SEVEN PLUS SEVEN HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED, OTHER LDC LEADERS HAD NO PROBLEM, EGYPT WOULD BE PRETTY ISOLATED, POLITICAL ADVANTAGE OF 77, ETC.)

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3. HUNGARIANS ARE VERY LEARY OF BILATERAL ROUTE TO

NEGOTIATIONS IN 1976 BECAUSE THEY HAVE LARGE DEMANDS TO MAKE OF THE EC BUT VERY LITTLE LEVERAGE. THEY THEREFORE LIKE BIG MEETINGS TO SIDE WITH THE U.S. THEY ANTICIPATE GETTING ONLY THE BACK OF THE HAND FROM EC IN BILATERALS.

4. FRENCH REP DID NOT CONSIDER AGRICULTURE OUTCOME WAS A VICTORY FOR FR/EC -- "ALL WE GOT WAS AN EMPTY GLASS."

5. JAPAN WAS DISTURBED ABOUT DG'S FREE-WHEELING WITH HIS FINAL SUMMING UP. THEY CONSIDERED HIS TEXT JUST SKIRTED THE MARGIN OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE PROVOKED THEM TO TAKE THE FLOOR TO ASK FOR CHANGES. THEY WERE EVEN MORE DISTURBED ABOUT PRECEDENT - HIS SUMMING UP SHOULD BE CLEARED BY THE BIG BOYS.

6. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH DELEGATE FROM THE NETHERLANDS, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS TO WHAT THE U.S. MIGHT DO IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO CONCLUDE THEM SUCCESSFULLY ON 1977, HE SUGGESTED THAT U.S. MUST "SQUEEZE THE FRENCH WHERE IT HURTS." HE WENT ON TO SAY ONE SUCH AREA WOULD BE THE MONETARY FIELD AND THEN SERIOUSLY SUGGESTED THAT LANDING RIGHTS OF THE CONCORDE WAS ANOTHER. IN FACT, ANY AREA WOULD BE APPROPRIATE, AS LONG AS IT INFLICTED PAIN.

7. WHEN ASKED HIS REACTION TO THE PRESENCE OF THE LOCAL TASS CORRESPONDENT AT BOTH THE DENT AND HIJZEN PRESS CONFERENCES, THE GATT DIRECTOR FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS TOLD US DEL THAT RUSSIAN OFFICIALS IN GENERAL HAVE BEEN CONTACTING THE GATT SECRETARIAT WITH UNUSUAL FREQUENCY OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS. THE ACTIVITY BY THE TASS CORRESPONDENT DURING THE TNC HELPS CONFIRM THE SECRETARIAT'S VIEW THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN GATT MATTERS. HE DID NOT SPECULATE ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS.

8. MEXICAN MTN DEL ABEL GARRIDO RUIZ REAFFIRMED IN SEVERAL PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS THAT MEXICO WAS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING JOINING THE GATT, BUT THAT A FINAL DECISION WOULD NOT BE TAKEN UNTIL THE END OF THE MTN WHEN MEXICO WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO ASSESS THE "NET" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADVANTAGES OF ADHERING TO THE GATT. GARRIDO ALSO MENTIONED THAT THERE WERE CHANGES IN THE GATT FRAMEWORK THAT IT WOULD LIKE BEFORE JOINING.

9. GARRIDO ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAD COMPLETED DECEMBER 5 A STUDY OF THE ADVANTAGES TO MEXICO OF THE U.S. GSP. HE EXPECTED THAT THIS STUDY WOULD BE COMMENTED UPON BY HIGH MEXICAN OFFICIALS WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

HE NOTED THAT THE MEXICAN FINDINGS PARALLELED THOSE OF THE USG AND, THAT ALL IN ALL, GSP WAS "NOT BAD" FOR MEXICO. GARRIDO NOTED HIS INTENTION NOT TO SPEAK TO GSP IN MTN, NOTING THAT THE FORUM WAS INAPPROPRIATE, BUT EXPECTED MEXICO TO BE CRITICAL ON SUBSTANCE SUCH AS COMPETITIVE NEED IN UNCTAD PREFERENCES COMMITTEE. WITH RESPECT TO SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAIL, GARRIDO INDICATED THAT FORM OF SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIATED TREATMENT MIGHT BE AN EXPORT TAX APPLIED BY AFFECTED LDC RATHER THAN CVD BY DEVELOPED COUNTRY WHICH WOULD PERMIT NECESSARY TIME FOR LDC TO PHASE OUT OR REDIRECT ITS SUBSIDY.

10. CONCERNING THE BRAZILIAN REQUEST IN THE TNC FOR A GROUP TO CONSIDER REFORM OF THE GATT RULES, THE BRAZILIAN DCD AMAURY BIER NOTED THAT BRAZILIANS HAD NOT YET DONE SUFFICIENT BACKGROUND WORK ON THIS PROPOSAL AND WERE ASKING FOR MORE INSTRUCTIONS FROM BRASILIA. HE NOTED THAT THEY INTENDED TO CONSULT BILATERALLY WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS BEGINNING IN JANUARY. HE NOTED THAT THE BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL WITHIN THE UN FRAMEWORK FOR A NEW NORTH-SOUTH TRADING FRAMEWORK HAD BEEN SHELVED FOR THE TIME BEING AND THAT THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO PROPOSALS ALSO NEEDED STUDY.

11. BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL FOR REFORM GROUP. FOLLOWING U.S. STATEMENT THAT ITS VIEW ON GATT REFORM "PARALLELED THE SUBSTANCE" OF BRAZILIAN STATEMENT, MEMBER OF DUTCH DEL INQUIRED WHETHER THIS REALLY MEANT U.S. AGREED WITH BRAZIL THAT MAIN EMPHASIS OF GATT REFORM SHOULD BE ON LDC RELATIONSHIPS AND PART IV. WE EXPLAINED U.S. STATEMENT MEANT TO CONVEY PARALLELISM ON CONCEPT THAT IMPROVED TRADING RULES MUST ACCOMPANY REDUCED TRADE BARRIERS BUT NOT THAT MAIN FOCUS SHOULD BE IN PART IV. WE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFERENCE TO "SUBSTANCE" MEANT WE NOT PERSUADED ON PROCEDURAL PROPOSAL ON GATT REFORM GROUP. BRAZILIAN REP MENTIONED TO MTN DEL MEMBER THAT HE HAD NOTED U.S. STATEMENT CAREFULLY AND WANTED TO CONSULT ASAP TO IDENTIFY POINTS OF COMMONALITY. ZAIRE REPS MISINTERPRETED U.S. REMARKS IN WELCOMING U.S. "ACCEPTANCE" OF BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL. (COMMENT: MORE DETAILED WASHINGTON VIEW ON BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL WOULD BE USEFUL IN FUTURE DISCUSSIONS. END COMMENT).

12. COMMENTS RELATING SPECIFICALLY TO TARIFFS BEING SENT SEPTELS. WALKER

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